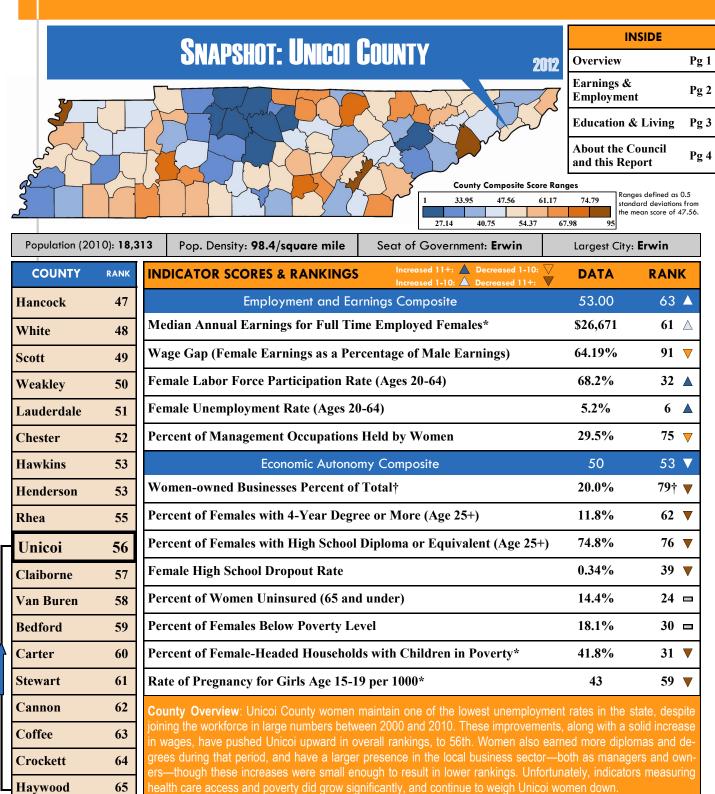
## The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties



Note: all figures are based on estimates formed from sample data and are subject to sample error and rounding.

Uр from 65th

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<sup>\*</sup> The American Community Survey (ACS) is an annual demographic survey of the U.S. It provides the detailed demographic, economic and housing data that was once supplied by the Decennial Census Long Form. The ACS has a smaller sample so combines several years' data to produce multi-year estimates. Due to the small sample size there is an increased margin of error in many less populated counties for this indicator.

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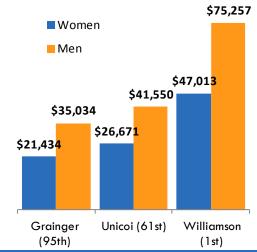
<sup>‡</sup> Estimates are too unreliable or not available to be included in composite calculations. Any figure shown is an estimate for the reader's benefit only.

# The Status of Women in: Unicoi County

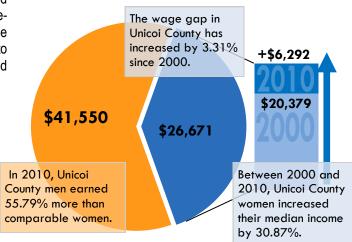
## **♦** Earnings

nicoi County women's earnings outpaced inflation by roughly four percent between 2000 and 2010, resulting in a bump from 66th to 61st in statewide rankings for median income. During the same period, local men in the county added 37.6 percent to their median income estimates and are now ranked 20th in the state.

#### **Median Earnings: Counties Compared**

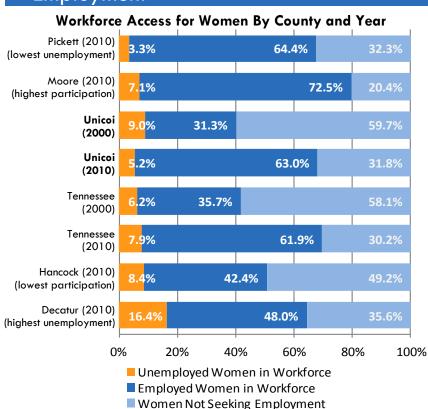


#### Median Earnings and the Wage Gap, 2000-2010



**Resulting** from a larger increase in male wages, the income disparity between men and women in Unicoi increased by 3.31 percent between 2000 and 2010. Local women how rank nearly last in this indicator (91st, down from 82nd) and earn just 64.19 percent of male wages in the county. This corresponds to a very large shortfall of \$14,879 each year.

## **▲** Employment



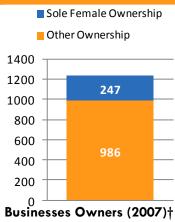
**Women** in Unicoi County participated in the workforce at a rate of 68.2 percent in 2010, growing by more than three-quarters and improving significantly in this indicator's rankings, from 68th to 32nd since 2000. Unicoi fell just 1.6 percent short of the statewide rate in 2010.

Men in Unicoi County are 4.7 percent more likely to be involved in the workforce than women. Similarly, women with children under six are slightly more likely to join the workforce, at a rate of 70 percent.

Unicoi County women experienced a rare decrease in unemployment rates between 2000 and 2010 despite a large influx of new workers. In fact, the unemployment rate among women was nearly halved, from 9 percent in 2000 to 5.2 percent in 2010. This was 2.7 percent lower than the statewide rate in 2010 and Unicoi rocketed to sixth in the state, from 88th.

Local men were only 0.5 percent more likely to be unemployed, but women with young children were jobless at a high rate of 16 percent.

# The Status of Women in: Unicoi County



**Unicoi** County women have made modest gains in managerial presence since 2000. Countywide, 5.5 percent more managers are now female, but this expansion was relatively slow and caused Unicoi to drop one place, to75th, in statewide rankings. Unicoi also fell short of the state estimate of 36 percent in this category.

Small samples sizes make it more difficult to predict business ownership trends in Unicoi, but women are projected to control a share of local businesses in 2007 that is only slightly larger than that seen in 2000; resulting in a fall in rank from 54th to 79th.

#### Women At Work

#### **Business Management**

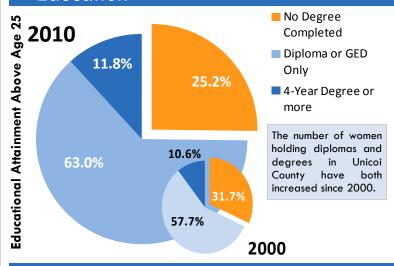
The incidence of female managers in Unicoi County increased from 24% to 29.5% between 2000 and 2010.

#### **Business Ownership**†

The percentage of women business owners in Unicoi County is projected to have increased to 20% between 2000 and 2007.



### **▼** Education



In real terms, Unicoi County has improved in each academic indicator, but it's progress has been slow when considered in the context of statewide gains since 2000.

The number of women holding four year degrees, for example, has increased by 1.2 percent, and has dropped from 40th in the state to 62nd.

The percent of women holding diplomas has also increased in the county, by 6.5 percent, but also dropped, 52nd to 76th.

Dropout rates improved too, to 0.34 percent in the 2011-12 school year, but Unicoi's relative ranking fell. from 28th to 39nd.

### ▼ Living

**Since** 2000, women in Unicoi County have seen a decrease in health care access as well as an increase in poverty.

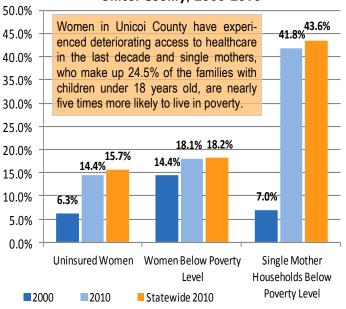
As of 2010, one in seven women in the county went without health insurance—more than double the amount in 2000—but remained 1.3 percent more likely to be insured than women in Tennessee, overall. Despite this increase, Unicoi held steady at 24th in the state.

In Unicoi County, both measured populations of women live in poverty at higher levels than they used to, but at slightly lower rates than women statewide.

Overall, women are now 3.7 percent more likely to live in poverty than they were in 2000, and are roughly as likely to do so as the average woman in Tennessee. Unicoi held steady at 30th in this indicator.

Single women saw a much more dramatic rise in poverty during the same period—34.8 percent—and were more than twice as likely as the average woman in Tennessee or Unicoi to experience poverty. The county fell from 17th to 31st in this measure.

#### Health and Poverty Indicators for Women: Unicoi County, 2000-2010



## About the Council and this Report

The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties report offers an economic profile of women in each county of Tennessee and examines how women's rights and equality vary among the counties. The report presents data and overall rankings in two categories of women's economic status: employment and earnings and economic autonomy. Indicators of women's status in each category make up the composite rankings of the counties.

The employment and earnings section presents data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percent of management occupations held by women.

The economic autonomy section includes information on the percentage of businesses owned by women, educational attainment levels, percentage of women with any kind of health insurance, percentage of women living in poverty and percentage of single female-headed households living in poverty, the female high school dropout rate and the teen pregnancy rate.

The **Tennessee Economic Council on Women** was created in 1998 by the Tennessee General Assembly to assess Tennessee women's economic status. The Council develops and advocates solutions to address women's needs in order to help women achieve economic autonomy. In setting its priorities, the Council selects issues that are timely and likely to result in positive changes for women.

Research & Authorship by: William Arth, Senior Research Manager & Julia Reynolds-Thompson, Fmr Research Analyst

Visit the Economic Council on Women at www.tennesseewomen.org

SOURCES  Employment and Earnings	
Wage Gap (Female Earnings as Percent of Male Earnings)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Selected Economic Characteristics'
Female Labor Force Participation Rate	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Employment Status'
Female Unemployment Rate	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Employment Status'
Percent of Management Occupations Held by Women	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Occupation by Sex and Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months for Full-Time, Year-Round Civilian Employed Population, 16 year and older'
Economic Autonomy	
Women-Owned Businesses Percent of Total	U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners 'Statistics for All U.S. Firms by Industry, Gender, Ethnicity, and Race' † ‡
Percent of Females with 4-Yr Degree or More (Age 25+)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Educational Attainment'
Percent of Females with High School Diploma (Age 25+)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Educational Attainment'
Female High School Dropout Rate	Tennessee Department of Education, 2011-2012 School Year
Percent of Women Uninsured (65 or under)	U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates
Percent of Women Below Poverty Level	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months'
Percent of Female-headed Households with Children in Poverty	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families' *
Rate of Pregnancy for Girls 15-19 (per 1000)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Fertility' *

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